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If you have any comment, suggestion, or news item you would like to submit, send them via E-Mail to 3241437@mcimail.com or B.PASTERNAK@genie.geis.com. You can contact Newsline at +1 805-296-7180. It is a combination answering and FAX machine, if you have a FAX to send, wait for the voice prompt and press your fax-send button.

All other information and disclaimers are in the text header below.

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NEWSLINE RADIO - CBBS EDITION #129 - POSTED 06/17/94

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The following is late news about Amateur Radio for Radio Amateurs as prepared from NEWSLINE RADIO scripts by the staff of the AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE, INC. -- formerly the WESTLINK RADIO NETWORK. For current information updates, please call

Audio Version of Newsline

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Los Angeles.....	(213) 462-0008
Los Angeles (Instant Update Line).....	(805) 296-2407
Seattle.....	(206) 368-3969
Seattle.....	(206) 281-8455
Tacoma.....	(206) 927-7373
Louisville.....	(502) 894-8559
Dayton.....	(513) 275-9991

Chicago..... (708) 289-0423
New York City..... (718) 353-2801
Melbourne, FL..... (407) 259-4479

Electronic Hardcopy Version of Newsline

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GEnie (RTC Bulletin Board)..... m345;1
GEnie (File Library)..... m345;3
Dallas Remote Imaging BBS (DRIG)..... (214) 492-7573
 In bulletin number 36
The Midwest Connection BBS..... (701) 239-2440
 In bulletin number 6 of the ham radio conference
Delphi.....
 In the ham radio conference
Internet.....
 In the rec.radio.info newsgroup
 FTP: oak.oakland.edu, archive: pub/hamradio/docs/newsline
Fidonet, RIME, Intellec, I-Link.....
 In the Ham Radio conferences on those networks

For the latest breaking info call the Instant Update Line listed above. To provide information please call (805) 296-7180. This line answers automatically and will accept up to 30 minutes of material.

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For further information about the AMATEUR RADIO NEWSLINE, please write to us with an SASE at P.O. Box 463, Pasadena, CA 91102.

Thank You
NEWSLINE

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Some of the hams of NEWSLINE RADIO...

WA6ITF WB6MQV WB6FDF K6DUE W6RCL N6AHU N6AWE N6TCQ K6PGX N6PNY
KU8R N8DTN W9JUV KC9RP K9XI KB5KCH KC5UD KC0HF G8AUU WD0AKO DJ0QN
and many others in the United States and around the globe!!!

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Hams in South Florida operating under the banner of the Sociadad Internacional de Radioafficianados are working with hams in Columbia to provide emergency communications for relief efforts in the wake of a violent earthquake that shook that nation at 3:47 pm local time on June 7th. The quake which registered 6.6 on the Richter scale shook the city of Bogota, the Province of Canca, and Neiva for a period of about 25 seconds. The epicenter was located in the zone of Torino in or about 6 to 10 kilometers in depth.

Initial reports said that the trembler killed at least 64 people and left up to 500 missing. Those numbers rose sharply in the days following the trembler after it was discovered that the area near the quakes epicenter had caused mud-slides and many people are presumed drowned.

Estimates of the final toll from the disaster, which hit the remote Paez river valley about 180 miles from Bogota varied wildly because of the difficulties in reaching the area.

The shanty towns of San Jose, Santa Martha, and Mosoco were completely wiped off the face of the earth. A wall of rocks and mud destroyed the unpaved road linking the mainly Indian area to the outside world. Using Amateur Radio, local officials appealed for helicopters, medicines, food and tents to help the homeless and those hurt.

Presently, there are several nets working with Colombia quake relief. The Red Colombiana de Emergencia with HK3HLR and, WA4ZZG can be found on 14.153 MHz. The Red de Emergencia de Caliy Popayan Net with HK4BTV and HK4RCA is on 7.085 MHz also serving as relief coordination stations to the area.

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ACTION EXPECTED IN LA VE PROBE

The inquiry of alleged cheating and fraud in California's all volunteer ham radio testing system has taken an important new direction. One that almost certainly indicates punitive action against those accused is about to begin.

Newsline has learned that FCC Private Radio Branch Chief, John B. Johnston, W3BE, has replaced attorney Thomas Fitz-Gibbon as the lead investigator in the case. Johnston is well known to most hams as the man at the FCC who oversees the Part 97 amateur service rules. His plain language rewrite of Part 97 brought him the Dayton Radio Amateur of the Year award in 1991. In short, John B. Johnston probably understands the ham radio rules and regulations far better than any other person alive.

And knowing Part 97 this well also makes W3BE a skilled investigator in any issue dealing with regulatory violations. In fact, it was an inquiry headed by W3BE of an earlier testing fraud case in Puerto Rico that led to numerous license

revocations several years ago. This, after Johnston proved that a for profit license scam existed in that territory.

And if word on the street is correct, John has not wasted any time. The usually reliable Washington rumor mill has it that Johnston has already sent out letters to a number of applicants and suspect VE's. Letters that basically say that the recipient of the note has lied in previous correspondence with the commission. That the FCC does not believe his or her story. That telling the truth now will be easier than telling it later under oath.

The fact that Johnston is now leading the California VE probe indicates to those that know the FCC that the agency intends to make examples of those volunteer examiners who may have profiteered from the licensing of hams. While license suspensions and revocations are likely, there is now a good chance that the Department of Justice will also take up the matter. If this happens then you may eventually see some bad VE's and examinees hit with some very stiff fines or doing hard time behind prison walls, after they have their day in court.

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VEC MEETING

Almost ironically, the FCC will hold its annual meeting with the nations Volunteer Examination Coordinators on Friday, June 24th in Gettysburg Pennsylvania. There will be numerous items discussed not the least of which will be tightening up overall security in the wake of the wide spread ham radio testing corruption alleged to have taken place throughout the state of California. Also on the agenda will be items surrounding question pools and testing methodology. Newslines will bring you a full report on the FCC and VEC gathering.

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CONGRESSIONAL HAM

Dan Rudd, WB4PRX, an Extra class ham from the 6th district in Tennessee has announced his intention to run for congress. The June 1st W5YI Report says that Rudd, a Democrat is a physician lives Murphreesboro. He obtained his Novice ticket while still in grade school. After upgrading he was active during the Vietnam War running phone patches for servicemen overseas.

According to W5YI, Rudd is a conservative Democrat who believes that the ham radio bands must be protected from further encroachment by outside interests. Rudd also feels that volunteer examiners must be protected by federal law from any claims of liability incurred in the course of the ham radio related testing activities. If elected, Dan Rudd will be the first ham elected to

a congressional seat since the retirement of Senator Barry M. Goldwater, K7UGA.

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FCC CANCELS FINE

The FCC has canceled a \$2000 fine issued against a Florida woman for alleged unlicensed operation. The May 1993 Notice of Apparent Liability to Monetary Forfeiture was against Margaret Taylor of Windmere Florida who had been charged with operating on 145.53 MHz without the benefit of being licensed.

According to the ARRL Letter, Taylor appealed the fine on the grounds that she should have received a warning notice before being issued the NAL. She also claimed that she was unable to pay the forfeiture due to her age and financial condition.

The FCC said that Taylors response was more than satisfactory. It issued an order canceling the fine because of the proof Taylor supplied, the convincing nature of her arguments and that she had no previous FCC violations.

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FCC UPHOLDS FINE

In another action, the FCC has upheld an action against Joseph Sawchuck, W30LN, of Pompano Beach Florida to cancel his Commercial license and to fine him \$5000. Sawchuck had served as the sole radio operator on the vessel Patriot. The FCC regulations require at least two radio officers on board unless the radio officer has received a service endorsement to his First Class Radiotelegraph Operators Certificate. Sawchuck did not have this endorsement but had argued that the fine imposed was too high in light of the FCC's downward adjustment criteria. Without comment, the FCC denied the seventy-six year old Advanced Class operators appeal.

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FCC CLARIFIES NEW DIGITAL RULES

In response to a request from the ARRL and inquiries from others, the FCC's Private Radio Bureau has clarified new rules that went into effect on June 1, 1994. The new rules do not remove the restriction against automatic control of digital and RTTY transmitting below 50 MHz.

The new rules, resulting from action in PR Docket 93-85, relax the Amateur Service rules regarding the responsibility for the content of messages on high-speed digital networks. The Commission amended Section 97.109(e), to allow a forwarding station in a message forwarding system to be automatically controlled while transmitting third party communications.

But, the Commission pointed out in a June 2 statement, Section 97.109(d), which was not amended, still limits automatic control of stations transmitting RTTY or digital emissions to frequencies above 50 MHz.

The FCC currently has under consideration two petitions for rule making, RM-8218 and RM-8280, that address this subject. The petitions were submitted by the ARRL and by the American Digital Radio Society.

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SENATE CONFIRMS TWO FCC MEMBERS

The Senate has confirmed Susan Ness and Rachelle Chong as members of the Federal Communications Commission. The action came Thursday night by voice vote. Ness is a former media investment banker with ties to the Democratic Party and President Clinton. Chong, a Republican, is a telecommunications attorney from San Francisco.

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AMBASSADOR AWARD

Advanced Electronic Applications has named Jim Stafford W4Q0 as the winner of its 1994 Amateur Ambassador Award. Stafford was selected as this years winner based on his work with the Radio Active Schools program in the Atlanta Georgia area. Radio Active Schools provides teachers and students with a chance to get hands-on experience in electronics and science through the use of Amateur Radio. W4Q0 has also been instrumental in helping several teachers to become licensed hams.

Jim Stafford W4Q0 received the Amateur Ambassador Award along with a check for \$1000 at the ARRL National Convention in Dallas Texas.

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STS-60 RESULTS

The folks who sponsor the Shuttle Amateur Radio Experiment flights have some good news. They report that the robot packet station counter aboard the STS-60 mission back in February clicked over more than 4000 connects with amateurs on the ground.

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COPYRIGHT WIN

Software developer Brian Beezley, K6STI says that he has settled copyright infringement actions against two CD Rom distributors. According to Beezley's May 24th press release, two

companies have signed --- and we quote -- "have signed agreements to cease and desist from unauthorized distribution of copyrighted antenna analysis and optimization software written by K6STI" -- end quote.

Beezley says that he has now been forced to copy protect his latest software releases. K6STI adds that he hopes that news of this legal action will make the overall software market a safer place for the products of all software writers, especially those serving the Amateur Radio marketplace.

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DX - CHAD

In DX, word that yet another new station has shown up from Chad signing F5LGF/TT8. No other information is available at this time other than the operator's name is Chris. This station has only been heard on 20 meters CW between 20:00 and 22:00z.

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DX - ANGOLA

Antonio, D2EGH, says that he will be signing D3X for the next three weeks. There was no reason that was given for the special callsign, but his daily activity has been on 14.195 MHz, between 20:00 hours and 01:30 UTC. You can QSL D3X via CT1EGH.

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YOUNGEST DXCC RECORD

Also word that nine year old Casey Haley, AB5RG has received has made DXCC. Casey, who lives in Houston Texas received his DXCC certificate in mid April. He is believed to be the youngest person ever to attain the DXCC. Casey was also a speaker at the Dayton Hamvention Youth Forum on Saturday April 30th.

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NEW CARY / THIRD HARMONIC

And finally, our congratulations to Dale Cary, WD0AKO and his wife Kay on the latest addition to the family. A baby girl named Jamie Alexis Kay Cary that arrived at 5:55 pm on Monday, May 23rd. Jamie weighed in at 7 pounds 2 ounces and was 18.5 inches at birth. Dale, who volunteers his time to post Newsline scripts on various ham radio and public bulletin board networks like Genie tells us that Jamie's older siblings Alyssa and Briana are both proud big sisters.

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And for this week, that's all from the Amateur Radio Newsline.
You can write to us at:

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Pasadena, California
91102

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